



PRESS RELEASE

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Idaho and E. Oregon Onion Production Decreased 18 Percent

The 2005 summer storage onion production in Idaho and Eastern Oregon decreased 18 percent from 2004. Production was estimated at 13.7 million cwt, down from the 16.7 million cwt produced in 2004. Harvested acreage decreased 800 acres from 2004, while onion yield fell 113 cwt to 662 cwt per acre. The value of the 2005 crop totaled \$149 million, up from \$91.0 million in 2004. Shrinkage and loss for the 2005 crop totaled 2.76 million cwt, down 18 percent from 2004.

Nationally, summer storage production decreased 13 percent from 2004 to 51.4 million cwt. Harvested acreage decreased from 110,050 acres in 2004 to 106,420 acres in 2005. The U.S. average summer storage yield decreased 52 cwt per acre from 2004 to 483 cwt per acre. The summer storage crop is valued at \$513 million in 2005, compared to just \$363 million for the 2004 crop. Shrinkage and loss for the 2005 crop totaled 6.47 million cwt, down 27 percent from 2004.

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